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**Ben G. Almond** Executive Director-Federal Regulatory DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

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May 31, 1994

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Mr. William F. Caton Acting Secretary Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, NW, Room 222 Washington, DC 20554

RE: RM 8181 Inmate Calling Services

Dear Mr. Caton:

In accordance with the requirement of Section 1.1206 (a)(1) of the Commission's Rules, you are hereby notified that on May 31, 1994 Jim Hawkins, President-Public Communications; David Cockcroft Director-Regulatory Strategy; Julia Strow, Manager-Regulatory; and Ben Almond, Executive Director-Federal Regulatory, all of BellSouth Corporation met with Ruth Milkman, Senior Advisor to Commissioner Hundt and Rudy Baca, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Quello to discuss issues related to inmate services and the pay phone industry. The enclosed document was used for discussion purposes.

Sincerely,

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Ben G. Almond

**Executive Director-Federal Regulatory** 

Attachment

cc:

Ruth Milkman

Rudy Baca

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## BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS ISSUES RM-8181

DEREGULATION OF BOC INMATE SERVICE ABSENT INTERLATA RELIEF PLACES BOCS AT AN UNFAIR COMPETITIVE DISADVANTAGE

INMATE SERVICE IS COMPETITIVE TODAY IN THAT INDEPENDENT PAYPHONE PROVIDERS (IPPS) HAVE AN ESTIMATED 40% OF THE INMATE MARKET IN THE BELLSOUTH REGION

SEGMENTING THE INMATE MARKET WOULD HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF LESS PROFITABLE CONTRACTED STATIONS TRADITIONALLY SUPPORTED BY THE MORE PROFITABLE INMATE SERVICE

DEREGULATION OF BOC INMATE SERVICE SHOULD NOT BE MANDATED UNTIL COST RECOVERY ISSUES ARE RESOLVED TO ENSURE A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD

BOCS ARE CURRENTLY PRECLUDED FROM THE INTERLATA REVENUE SOURCES AVAILABLE TO IPPS

IPPS ARE NOT NECESSARILY PRECLUDED FROM THE INTRALATA REVENUE STREAMS AVAILABLE TO BOCS

NO COST RECOVERY MECHANISM EXISTS TO OFFSET EQUIPMENT EXPENSE CURRENTLY RECOVERED THROUGH FEDERAL ACCESS CHARGES

REGULATORY TREATMENT SHOULD NOT BE USED TO GIVE UNFAIR AND UNTIMELY ADVANTAGES TO THE INDEPENDENT PAYPHONE PROVIDERS IN THE PAY TELEPHONE INDUSTRY'S MOST PROFITABLE MARKET

## BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS ISSUES RM-8181

## INTERSTATE REVENUE SOURCES

REVENUE SOURCE	BOC PAYPHONE	IPP PAYPHONE
1+ INTERSTATE USAGE	NO	YES
1+ INTERSTATE OPERATOR	NO(1)	YES
0+/0- INTERSTATE USAGE	NO	YES
0+/0- INTERSTATE OPERATOR	NO(1)	YES
0+/0- INTERSTATE SURCHARGE	NO	YES
0+/0- INTERNATIONAL USAGE	NO	YES
0+/0- INTERNATIONAL OPERATOR	NO(1)	YES
DIAL AROUND COMPENSATION	NO	YES
INTERSTATE ACCESS CHARGES	YES	NO

<sup>(1)</sup> A 1992 RULING BY JUDGE GREENE FOUND THAT CERTAIN OPERATOR SERVICE FUNCTIONS COULD BE PERFORMED BY BOCS ON BEHALF OF AN INTEREXCHANGE CARRIER (IXC) FOR INTERLATA CALLS. FOR SUCH OPERATOR SERVICES TO BE VIABLE THERE MUST BE DEMONSTRATED MARKET DEMAND BY THE IXC FOR THE SERVICES. BY CONTRAST, INDEPENDENT PAYPHONE PROVIDERS MAY PERFORM THE OPERATOR SERVICE FUNCTION WITHOUT ANY AGREEMENT OR AFFILIATION WITH AN IXC. TO DATE NO DEMAND HAS BEEN DEMONSTRATED BY THE IXCS IN THE BELLSOUTH REGION FOR BOC PROVIDED OPERATOR SERVICE FUNCTIONS THEREFORE BELLSOUTH IS PRECLUDED FROM THESE REVENUE SOURCES SINCE ENTRY REQUIRES IXC DEMAND.